

Theme & Passage(s)	S A C R E D Made In The Image of God Genesis 1: 26-31, Matthew 26: 36-40, Matthew 5:43-48
Intro	We are made in God's image. This truth has many implications for us as we work out our relationship with Christ and all that He has called us to.
Welcome	Write the names of the group members on separate pieces of paper. Fold them up and then place them in a metaphorical hat. Pass the hat round and ask each member to take one. If they take one that has their name on it as them to swap with someone else. Ask each group member to share an aspect of God's image that they see in the person they have picked - eg Gill, you are such caring person, Bill, you are so wise
Worship	What is the greatest gift that God has given you? Encourage the group to spend time thanking God for the gifts that He has given. Include thanks for the gift of life, which comes with the potential for a relationship with God through Christ.
Word/ Read & Reflect	Read the passages and use the scriptures as a reference point for the questions below: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is everybody made in the image of God? 2. We are living in between times - in between the time of redemption and the time of restoration. Does God call us to play a part in His redemption agenda? If so, what? 3. Do we adopt attitudes and behaviour that distance ourselves from those who we feel are different to us? If so, how does that affect how we love our neighbours and love our enemies? 4. Is it possible to define people by the truth that they are made in the image of God and not by their opinions or their behaviour? How do we do this?
Working it out	On your own, spend time with God, asking Him to bring to mind people that you find difficult to love. Ask God to help you to reach out in love to those who He has brought to mind. In groups of three, share with one another and then spend time praying for one another supporting them in the commitment that they have made.